

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AID-05 NSC-05

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 DODE-00 PA-01

PRS-01 OIC-02 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 /120 W

-----221302Z 038413 /43

R 221136Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4063

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONROVIA 1948

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, ILO, LI

SUBJECT: LIBERIA AT 202 SESSION OF ILO GOVERNING BODY

REFS:

(A) STATE 059159,

(B) MONROVIA 0699 (NOTAL)

(C) MONROVIA 0432 (NOTAL)

(D) 76 MONROVIA 5625 (NOTAL)

(E) STATE 028274 (NOTAL)

(F) GENEVA 6293 (NOTAL)

1. AS REPORTED REFS B AND C, THIS POST EXPECTED THE LIBERIAN DELEGATION AT THE RECENT ILO GOVERNING BODY (GB) MEETING TO COORDINATE CLOSELY WITH OAU MEMBERS ITS POSITION ON THE U.S.-BACKED ATTEMPT TO CLOSE THE BOOK ON 1974 ILO RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ISRAEL. ALTHOUGH REPEATEDLY STRESSING ITS DESIRE THAT THE UNITED STATES REMAIN IN THE ILO, THE GOL MADE NO COMMITMENT IN PRE-GENEVA CONTACTS HERE TO SUPPORT OUR POSITION ON THIS SPECIFIC ISSUE. IN ATTEMPTING TO RESPOND TO REFTEL A, WHAT WE DON'T KNOW IS WHETHER THE LIBERIAN POSITION ON THE RESOLUTION ACTUALLY DID REPRESENT THE OAU CONSENSUS.

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2. IF ETHELBERT COOPER WAS THE SPOKESMAN FOR LIBERIA AT THE GB, WE ASSUME THAT JUST AS HE ENJOYED ASSUMING THE ROLE OF SPOKESMAN FOR AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS SUPPORTING PLO CAUSE AT 1976 WORLD EMPLOYMENT CONFERENCE (REF F), HE SEIZED UPON THIS ISSUE AS ANOTHER CHANCE TO GRANDSTAND. AS REPORTED REF D, COOPER IS A BIT BOMBASTIC AND IS NOT SEEN AS OVERLY SYMPATHETIC TO U.S.

CONCERNS AT THE ILO.

3. SINCE THE RESOLUTION ISSUE WAS RAISED WITH GOL OFFICIALS JANUARY 14 AND JANUARY 24-25 AND GIVEN THE GOL DELEGATION'S EARLY DEPARTURE FOR EUROPE, THIS POST MADE NO FURTHER DEMARCHES ON ISSUE IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO FEBRUARY 14 GB MEETING.

4. SINCE RECEIPT REFTTEL A, AMBASSADOR HAS RAISED ISSUE OF LIBERIAN PERFORMANCE AT ILO MEETINGS WITH MINISTER FOR PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS TOWNSEND, EMPHASIZING THAT GOL MUST MAKE CLEAR WHETHER IT WANTS TO RUN WITH THE HOUNDS OR WITH THE HARES. TOWNSENT CLEARLY NOT "AU COURANT" AND ASKED FOR FURTHER BRIEFINGS AS WE LOOKED INTO LIBERIA'S GENEVA DELEGATION POSITION ON ILO RESOLUTION ON ISRAEL.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING TEXT OF LIBERIAN REPRESENTATIVES' REMARKS AT GB MEETING. IT WOULD ALSO BE USEFUL FOR US TO KNOW REACTION OF HIS AFRICAN COLLEAGUES TO HIS CLAIM TO BE THEIR SPOKESMAN.

CARTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition Reason:
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